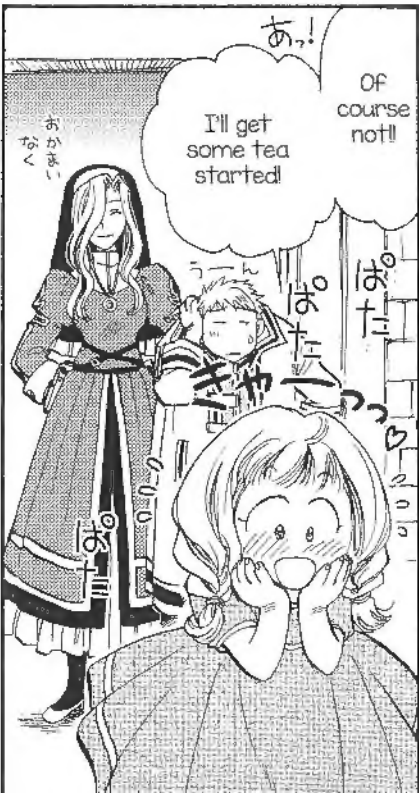
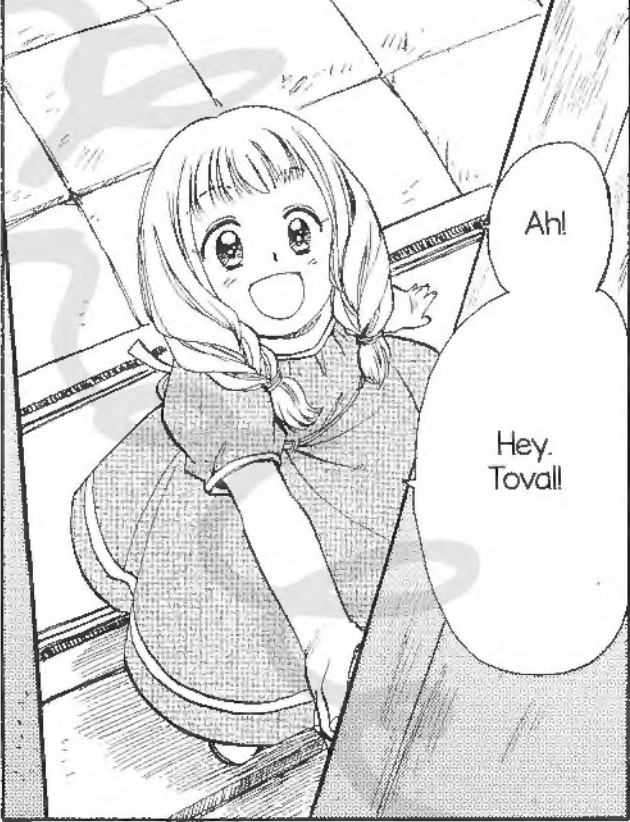
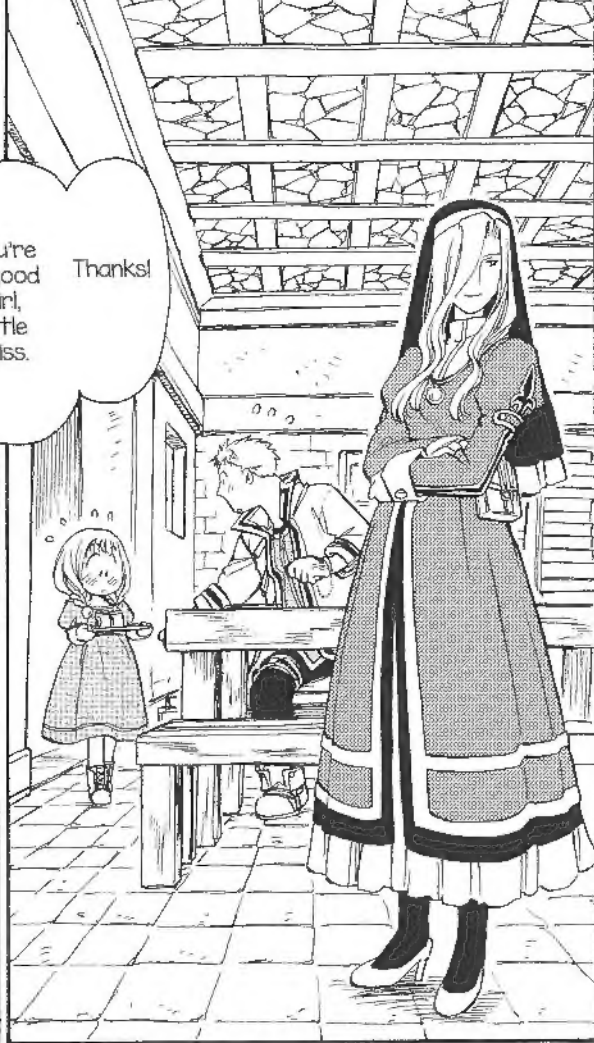
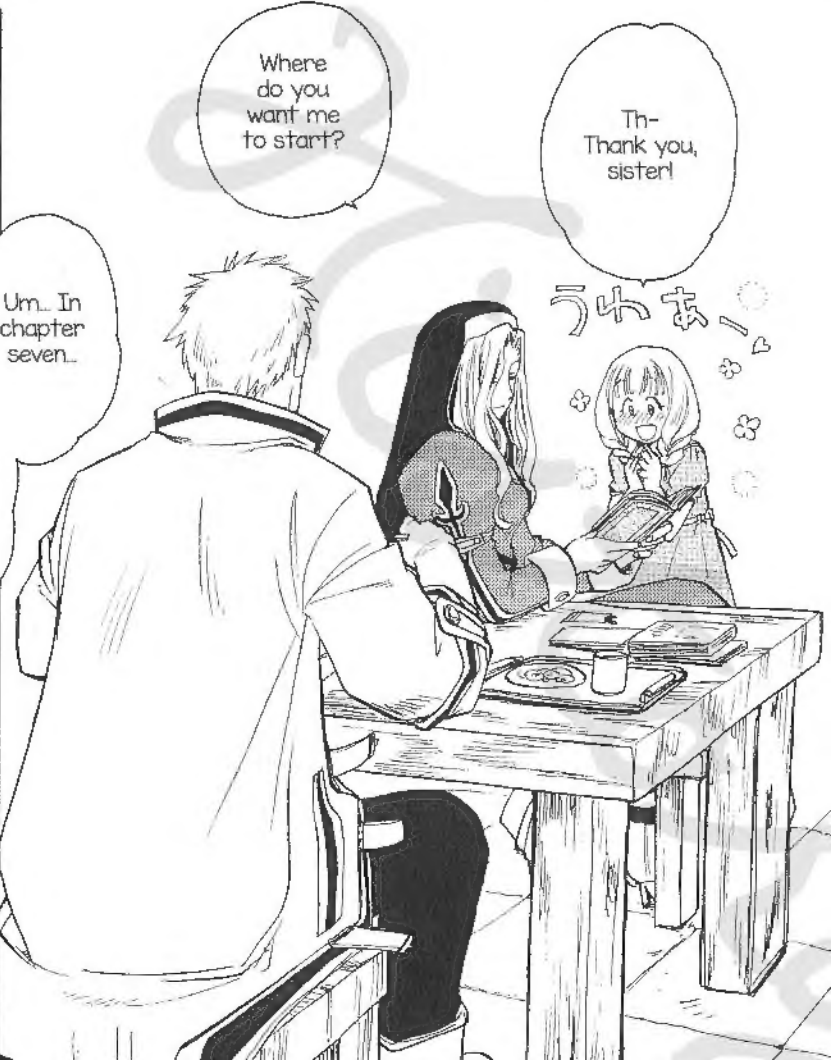








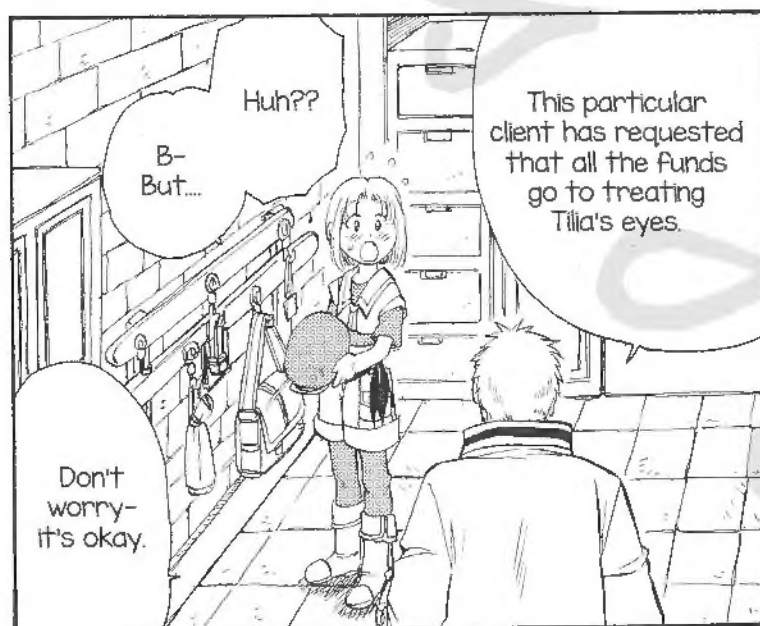






「 Chiding me
as if I were
a clueless child,

Sister Carnelia
rebuked, "You're
wrong, Toby." 」



Huh??

B-
But...

Don't
worry-
it's okay.

This particular
client has requested
that all the funds
go to treating
Tilia's eyes.



You just
need to
sign here.

It's voluntary,
but I wanted
to make
sure it's
in writing.



Reward?



And you're still giving me this money...

But...

I didn't do anything when you saved me.

Thank you.



My parents died when I was a kid...

You see...



...you're a good kid, and a good brother...



That's why I know how incredible it is that you've been able to do what you have.

Myself, I wasn't able to make an honest living.



So...

Being a child and having to do everything yourself to survive?

I understand how hard it is.

And you
are amazing
for that.

You are still
making a living
while taking
care of
your little
sister.

With
that
in mind...

You don't
need to
be so
modest
about it.

...okay?

So think
of it as a
present
from
Aldios.

And
Tilia, too...

Maybe the
Goddess has
noticed the
two of you
giving it
your all

B-
But the
money...

Huh?

And once
everything is
settled,
just let
the Bracers
Guild know.

Once
everything
is official,
I'll get
you a
discount.

Huh?
Oh yeah?

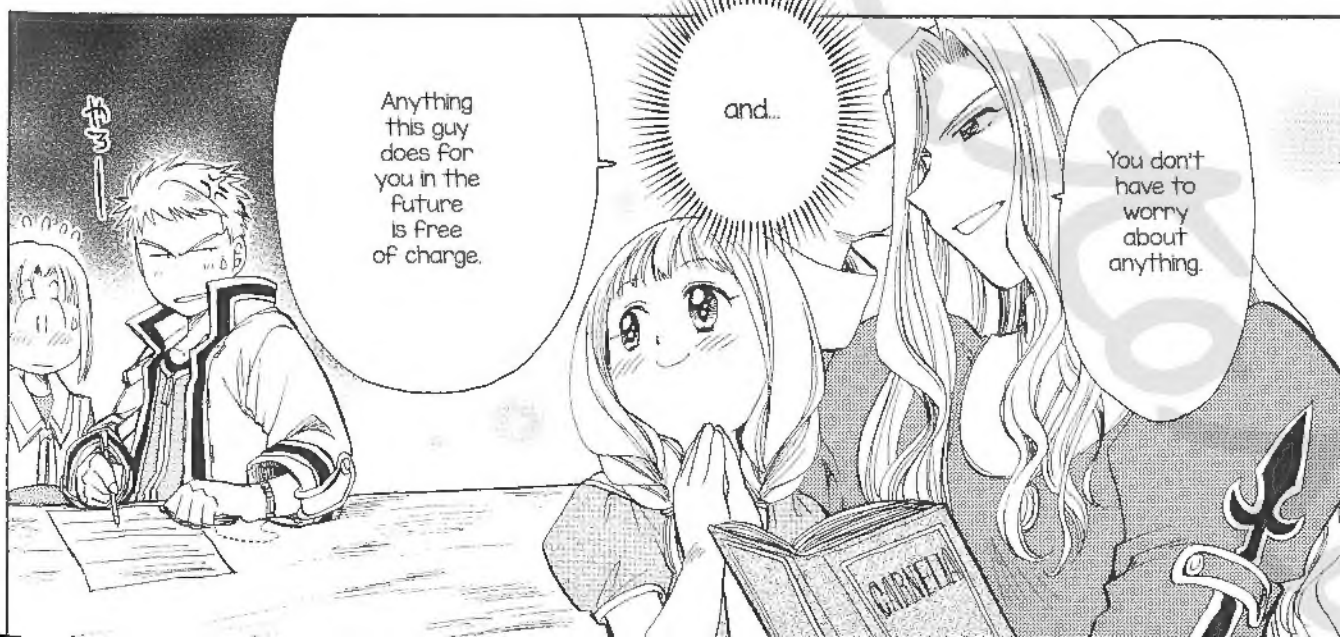
You should
consult
with this
doctor
about
what to
do next.

Alright!

Okay.



The popular
"Carnelia"
novel series...



That's
only for
regular
work,
isn't it?

いやり

And the
heroine is
a beautiful
sister with
carnelian eyes.

キラッ

Sorry,
sister.

But you do
know that
requests
for bracer
work have
to come
through
formal
channels
in the guild.

The hero
is a young
man, talented
with arts, that
later joins the
Bracers Guild.

You're
gonna
do it.

ぽろぽろぽろ

ぽろぽろ

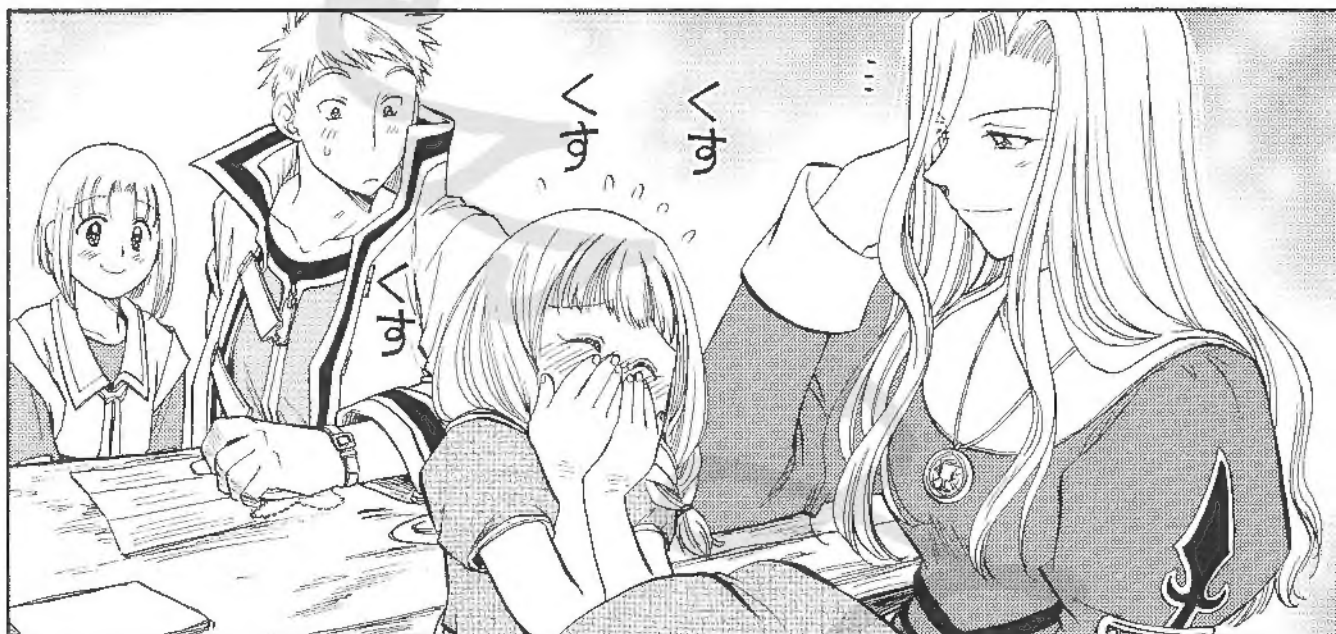
wait a
second...

Uh...
No...

Hey!

Don't say
things
like that!

ちやうど



"I want to draw a pre-story for the upcoming Zero no Kiseki release" is a thought that suddenly came to mind. "With Sora no Kiseki protagonists Estelle and Joshua in the lead," I thought. A segment of the story that wasn't told in any of the games that would still tie in with the yet unreleased Zero no Kiseki. For me it was a huge project, one that came with great responsibility and for which I had to give my everything. In the beginning, I was at a loss of words. Falcom gratefully told me that they would leave it to me, so I strengthened my resolve and did everything I could to pull it off.

I eventually submitted my draft to Falcom. In the manga, I started to work with the concept of a 'ring of judgment.' In particular Toval's design kept me thinking day and night. In the end, I started to love all the characters. If those feeling wouldn't have disappeared, I might have gotten myself into trouble (laughs). It was really sad that even when I tried, I just couldn't draw them properly. However, thinking like that eventually managed to pull it off. Right now, I'm really happy and a bit proud as well, to be honest. Though, 100 pages is kind of short. Fortunately, they could all be bundled in this special book.

Then, I got a letter from Chara-Ani, who wanted to have a drama CD based on the manga. Just the thought of having the lines I thought up read aloud made me feel kind of awkward. Its completion made me really happy. Like with the manga, I didn't expect it to sell as well. It would make me really happy if you could try to give it a listen, though.

...well then, what's left? I'd like to express my gratitude a little bit more. Maybe share a bit of final thoughts while I'm at it. Whatever it will be, please listen.

Finally, this manga couldn't have been made without Falcom's cooperation. I'd like to thank everyone on the editorial board for helping me throughout the process. Thank you so much!

- Shinki Kitsutsuki - Nov. 2010



Special thanks to Gu4n and Rain for translating this page for me!